FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. H. 3852, AS AMENDED

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TO: The Honorable Harvey S. Peeler, Chairman, Senate Medical Affairs Committee

FROM: Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board

ANALYSTS: R.J. Stein, Rodney Grizzle, Allan Kincaid and Earle Powell

DATE: January 25, 2008 SBD: 2008033

AUTHOR: Representative Harrison PRIMARY CODE CITE: 44-4-130

SUBJECT: Emergency Health Powers Act

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

Minimal (Some additional costs expected but can be absorbed)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

House Bill 3852, as amended, amends Chapter 4, Title 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, relating to the Emergency Health Powers Act. The Bill revises definitions of "qualifying health condition" and "trial court;" and amends Sections 44-4-530, -540 and -570 which impose penalties for non-compliance of quarantine orders, prohibits employers from firing or discriminating against employees who comply with quarantine orders, and providing that health care volunteers are immune from civil liability for damages when rendering service during an emergency.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

<u>Judicial Department</u>

The Department indicates that there will be a minimal fiscal impact on the General Fund of the State, which the agency can absorb with the current level of funding.

State Budget & Control Board

A review of this Bill by the Board indicates there will be minimal impact on the Insurance Reserve Fund.

Department of Health & Environmental Control

The Department reports that the provisions of this Bill have no fiscal impact on the agency.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

Enactment would have little or no impact on local expenditures.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:

Harry Bell

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Assistant Director, Office of State Budget